

THE BELL RINGER



VOLUME 46, NUMBER 2

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

OCTOBER 19, 1989

Tutoring Program Helps Juniors in Academic Need

by Casey Jones

staff reporter

This year, the junior class will be participating in a tutorial program for select students. The tutorial program, under the direction of Dr. Crowell, provides a means through which juniors can receive additional enrichment and aid in certain subject areas from selected students who exhibit academic excellence in the subject of the tutee. The tutees are chosen by their respective teachers and are

paired with a tutor who is, with a few exceptions, in the same class as the tutee.

The tutorial program at Montgomery Bell Academy, as evidenced by two students who participated in a similar, but less structured, tutorial program in their sophomore years, provides students with beneficial assistance in certain areas. According to Babu Paruchuri, a Latin tutor, the program was beneficial in that the student showed improvement in his grades, but

he adds, "the tutee has to have an interest in the program in order for the tutor to teach [beneficially]." Another Latin tutor, Wally Jones, indicates that the program was beneficial because "it builds the student's confidence in himself." He adds, "It [the program] also helps the tutors and tutees understand the subject area better." As these tutors have shown, the tutorial program, in which numerous juniors of this year participated as

MBA National Merit Competition Performance

MBA's Semifinalists in the 1990 National Merit Scholarship Competition are Kevin Kimery, Kevin Kruse, David Lott, Richard Pulley, Brett Stahlman, Chris Wayburn, and Simon Westlake.

The Commended Students in the National Merit Program are Steven Anderson, Brandon Barrett, Devraj Basu, Sharpe Belote, Dan Brooks, Scott Burrow, Andrew Coulam, Clayton Dike, Andrew Duthie, Daniel James, Hal Jones, Shrawan Kambam, Martin Keith, John Koon, Rob Lentz, Rob Murphy, David Neff, Eugene Park, Jonathan Reeve, Bill Sastry, Nate Sewell, and David Trainer.

sophomores, should benefit students in the junior class by providing a one to one instructional period that allows both the tutor and tutee to gain knowledge about the

subject area and a system of confidence building in the tutee.

Patrick Wilson Library
Montgomery Bell Academy
Nashville, Tennessee

Debate Teams Excels in Des Moines, Iowa

by Eugene Park

reporter

For the last three weeks, the MBA Debate Team has been proving that its top-ten pre-season status was justified. At the first tournament of the year, Wake Forest, the two varsity teams of Montgomery Bell reached the elimination rounds. The team of Davis/Parachuri was ranked fifth coming out of prelims, and fellow team members Park

and Reeve were seeded second with a perfect record. After the dust cleared from the constant battling of this 110 team field, the teams placed ninth and fifth respectively. In addition, Jonathan Reeve was named eighth speaker and "Come Closer Craig" Davis was ninth. Finally, the novices placed third in their division to add to the teams success.

At Ole Miss, the junior

varsity team of Howell and Wesley reached the quarterfinal round in the varsity division, losing to a strong Gulfport team. The novice team of Shasavari and Youngblood reached the semi-final round.

This last week, MBA visited Partstown, U.S.A., commonly known as Des Moines, Iowa. Participating in the MidAmerica Cup, the Big Red had its best showing of

the year. In a most competitive field of varsity debate, the MBA team of Jonathan Reeve and Eugene Park were second seeded after preliminaries and placed third overall in the varsity division. In the junior varsity division, two MBA sophomores, Robert Howell and John Wesley, were second seeded after preliminaries and ended up in third place. Robert was named one of the superior junior varsity

speakers with John only one point behind. Leading the way for the team was the first place in Lincoln-Douglas debate captured by Renard François. Renard was also named the best speaker of this division. François was generous enough to donate his first-place "gavel" to the school, and it will be displayed in Dr. Paschall's office.

Poston Relocates to Massey Hall

by Keith Ikard

staff reporter

Mr. Poston, drama teacher, English teacher, tennis coach, and counselor, has started his first year as Junior High Headmaster at MBA. He replaces Dr. Gaffney, who still teaches Latin. Mr. Poston said that upon Dr. Gaffney's resignation, he showed immediate interest in the job, and that he contacted Dr. Paschall about being a candidate. He said that although the job brings on a lot more work, he enjoys to work so he has no trouble in handling it. Mr. Poston said that his new office actually helps his counseling job because "this puts me in a

place where it's easier, I think, for high school people to come over anonymously"



Mr. James Poston, MBA's new Junior School Headmaster

because his Massey office is much more secluded than his old office in the Carter building. He said that when students saw one of their peers going into his office, they instantly thought that person had a drug problem. Now students are able to see Mr. Poston without having this stereotype thrown upon them.

Mr. Poston has been working at MBA for almost thirty years. He is an exceptional teacher, and hopefully he will prove to be a great administrator.



"Picasso they ain't"

This banner was placed on the front of the Ball Building after the campus was vandalized on Saturday, September 30 by four students of Father Ryan high school. This vandalism is so common that has come to be expected and has almost become an annual event.

An opinion on MBA - Ryan relations, page three.

OPINIONS

Gays' Rights to Adopt

COUNTERPOINT

by Devraj Basu

Photography Editor

This society, at least in principle if not in practice, is based upon the belief that all human beings should possess equal rights regardless of race, national or ethnic origin, sex, or religion. One obvious exception to this general principal of equality seems to exist with regard to the homosexual. Animosity and hatred (feelings of which I am also not totally innocent) have to a great degree made homosexuals who choose to voice their sexual preference virtual outcasts. Some have used them as mere scapegoats for many of the complex problems facing society today. A recent example of such condemnation coincides with the spread of the AIDS or HIV virus.

In spite of remaining widespread hatred and discrimination, notable advances have been made recently in the area of gay rights. A recent lawsuit was filed and won by a San Francisco gay couple to gain spousal insurance benefits from the employer of one of the men. This ruling and others like it inundate the gradual incorporation and acceptance of homosexual couples into the mainstream of American society. It has even been suggested that gay couples should be able to obtain a status that would serve as a legal equivalent of

marriage. Such a system would insure that gay couples could obtain the same economic benefits as married couples.

If gay couples are able to gain such a status helping to insure a stable home environment, then the issue of gay couples' rights to adopt children must be addressed. Most objections to granting such rights to homosexuals are firmly based in the religious beliefs that homosexuality is unnatural and immoral. However, I propose such religious views, having no practical foundation, should not be allowed to impact the fundamental right of the individual to be free from discrimination. Thus, whether David Lott believes that God created Adam and Eve or Adam and Bruce is largely irrelevant to the issue. In reality, there is no reason why homosexuals cannot function as capable and responsible parents. Any adverse emotional impact upon a child raised by a gay couple would not be any greater than that felt by a child in a single parent family. In fact, instances where lesbian couples have raised children have proven that children do not necessarily suffer emotional damage. In addition, contrary to Lott's unfounded views, research has conclusively shown that children raised by gay parents are no more likely to become homo-

sexuals than children raised by heterosexual couples. This fact seems to indicate that sexual preference is an inherent trait and is not acquired due to environmental influences. Finally, Mr. Lott's suggestion that a woman considering giving up her child for adoption would choose to destroy the child instead simply because she feared adoption by a gay couple is obviously ludicrous and does not deserve to be addressed.

In conclusion, it is quickly becoming apparent that, whether we like it or not, gay couples, among others, are redefining the conventional notion of the family in this country. I do not believe that this fact is necessarily indicative of increasing immorality or declining values, but rather quite the contrary. Those such as Mr. Lott who choose to continue to condemn the activities of certain groups of people based simply on how they interpret the will of God are a potential threat to the freedom from the oppression of discrimination we all enjoy. The addressing of gay rights as an issue should be viewed as an essential step toward equality in an open-minded and progressive society.

This article is printed in the interest of equal representation of an opposing viewpoint.

Student Council President: Stop Trashing Your Campus

by Alden Smith

Student Council President

MBA is generally regarded as one of the finest schools in the state. It is commonly praised for its competitiveness and outright brainpower. For the past few years, however, one aspect of MBA has steadily worsened. A visitor can stroll across our campus and practically trip over all the trash piling up on the ground. And why? Is throwing candy wrappers and ice cups on our school's grounds a successful act of rebellion by the students? Of course not.

By disrespectfully creating a landfill in front of the Ball Building, students are only giving themselves a bad name. The students of MBA, not just the administration and faculty, make MBA what it is. And furthermore, your mother does not work here. Do not abuse your privileged position as a member of one of the finest institutions anywhere by trashing your school's campus. Is it really that difficult to find a trash can? I think not. Show some respect. Plenty of others would love to be in your position.

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OPINIONS

Peace with Father Ryan Needed to Stop Damage

by John Lamb

staff writer

A man's security is threatened when he finds his home in ruins. To discover one's car burglarized is to swallow one's temporary sanity. Greeted by purple graffiti and broken windows on my school's campus, I felt no better.

Our military met a worse attack this summer in the death of our comrade William Higgins. I drop his rank to reveal his humanity. As men ourselves, we are all threatened by the guise called "terrorism," also known as "vandalism."

Please see it as such. There should be no generalizations, no stereotypes. The Elliston Place campus is no more a root of evil than the Middle East. While geography may be an incubator, it is no devil intrinsic of itself.

Searching for our cure to the more immediate problem of graffiti is admittedly made more difficult when we search for individuals to blame. Here the cure is more effective, however, and the search more noble.

I reflect upon the posse of which I was not a part, but am told of the warrior's grandeur which protected this campus.

Red's defense embattled those Purples who had themselves engaged in battle. This sleep-grabbing effort aimed more toward the core of the Irish's rotten apple than most other efforts I had encountered. Yet there is only so much ammunition.

Certainly the correct direction in which MBA began to travel that night was not the avenue of warfare. Asher Dudley conveyed the student body's general consensus that "we oughta slug 'em one." Please destroy all revengeful fantasies you may harbor, especially those plots including firemen.

While such innate desires are oh-so-tempting, fighting fire with fire does little to resolve disputes. Yet aside from procuring the identities of the Ryan rowdies, solutions seem to lie in the Sixties. Understanding and peacemaking do not exclude traditional competition. They do, however, seem to exclude modern high-school thought. Hear my proposition.

I propose that we understand Ryan's violent nature. We are all-male, smaller in population and stature, yet still competitive. To top everything off, we are (admit it) somewhat elitists. Ryan doesn't like that.

I emphatically propose that we "make peace" with

Ryan by upholding a standard decorum ourselves, and earnestly searching to forge proper mutual trust. Once trust is found, MBA and Ryan can compete with newly harmless, but still intense, rivalries. Neither faction is above the other; by starting on this premise, we can tame the feud.

Although time has passed since the primary clash of the teamsters, my theme rings on. Many contests lie ahead; by instigating repair immediately, we quickly press toward friendlier, healthier, and *less expensive* existence within the community.

"Try it; it's good for you." It's good for us all.

MBA Needs a Mascot, Right?

by Patrick Harkleroad

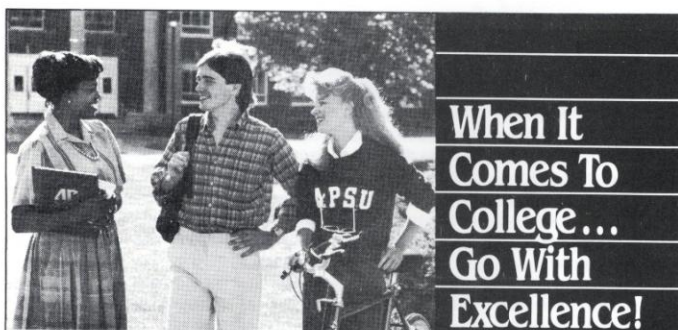
writer

Ever since I enrolled at MBA, I have always wondered what in the world a "Big Red" is, and many a time have I pondered this question until my brain was exhausted. A big issue in today's world is whether MBA should have a nickname or not. Well, I believe we do. One reason that I believe in a nickname is that it would add to the fear in an opponent's heart as they reach "The Hill." I think, moreover, that a nickname would be good for school spirit during pep rallies and games. Also, a nickname might put a modern flare into MBA's name.

A nickname would have to be an appropriate symbol for MBA. I therefore recommend the MBA "Volunteers" with our mascot "Smoky The Big Red Dog." If that name is not suitable, well, there are

surely others, but in my opinion there are no better. Another mascot might be a bulldog and a school name, the MBA "Big Red Bulldogs." Now that has flare. What about the MBA "Cowboys?" No, we would have to lose all our games to fit that name. I am sure that there are an infinite number of names that can give MBA a traditional nickname with a modern thought.

I believe that a nickname and a school mascot would be a "radical" road to take when we enter into the 90's, but it's up to you. So think about it and ponder it with all your heart. If you love the idea tell me, Pat Harkleroad, but if you hate it, well, complain to Renard Francois. So, fellows, do what you must do because it's not what your school can do for your nickname, but what your nickname can do for your school.



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FEATURES

The Art of Teaching

by Walter Jones

writer

Since the times of antiquity, teachers have been a major factor in passing knowledge from one generation to the next. Yet what is it that makes a truly good teacher? What elements of a person's character make an excellent educator? How does a teacher inspire his students? To these questions, one must turn to an educator with great enthusiasm for education, MBA's Dr. Paschall.

An important aspect of the student-teacher relationship is the attitude of the instructor. It is not, however, any particular genre of personality that dictates how effective a teacher is, but rather it depends on an internal drive. "Almost any personality is potentially good," said Dr. Paschall, "because [teaching] is an art and not a science.... it doesn't really require one personality type, which is one of the great things, that any human being with the right kind of instincts and determination can do it. Within that, though, there are some things that are crucial. The best teachers I know have

an inexhaustible interest in and love for the pupil."

And indeed it is this dedication to the student that has brought recognition to Dr. Paschall and this school. There is in any good teacher a method to support students. For any student to become turned on to a subject, this support must be there: "to treat students as if, or almost as if, they are already the kind of student you want them to be; and even if they aren't, they begin to live up to the version of them you've presented." Education is largely a matter of formulating a goal and a positive self-image in each student.

This inspirational aura of MBA teachers has been noted several times in the past few years. The recognition of Mrs. Bowen and Mr. Novak as they left MBA and Dr. Paschall's recent publicity for excellence in teaching are manifestations of the tradition of MBA's greatness as a learning institution. "Good teachers ... have a kind of internal flame," said Dr. Paschall. He indicated that good teachers have a belief that what they teach is impor-

tant and they are able to present material in such a way that the students will be receptive to it.

Basically, teaching is a profession that, when done well, helps students to learn not only about subject material but also about themselves and their potential. Indeed it is a profession that many MBA students might successfully pursue. Many find a "sense of calling" within themselves for this vocation. "I'd love to see a lot of MBA students teaching, and the reason for that is that I think that they are unusually able people. That is, not just intelligent and not just well educated, but that they are capable of organizing things: they can get things done, they have a sense of scope," said Dr. Paschall.

In an era in which there is a shortage of teachers, one can easily see the need for well-trained individuals to teach. The recent publicity of MBA underscores the high degree of inspiration provided by the teachers on this campus. Education is a noble career well worth considering.

Freshmen Views of MBA Upper School

by Casey Jones

staff reporter

Recently, the Bell Ringer had the opportunity to speak with a couple of the freshmen at MBA this year. The students participating in the interview were from different backgrounds in that one student was a graduate of the Montgomery Bell Academy Junior School and another was a "new" freshman, a graduate of Ensworth. The freshmen were asked to express their views about MBA after their first three weeks of life on the hill in respect to their first impressions of MBA's academic and athletic programs.

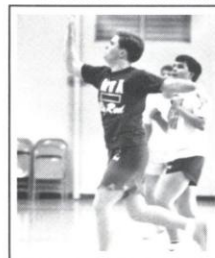
Kavi Paruchuri, a graduate of MBA's Junior School, speaks of the academic curriculum at Montgomery Bell Academy as "harder than the eighth grade" and "challenging." In response to the question concerning the athletic program at MBA, he states that "in weights and agility,

you run a lot and it gets you in shape."

The second freshman interviewed was a "new" freshman from the Ensworth School. John Crosslin states that his first impressions of MBA's academic program were that it is "harder [than the work at Ensworth]" and the academic rules are "more strict." John, a member of the Varsity Cross Country team, thinks that the Big Red cross country program is "better than Ensworth's because it is tougher and gets you in better shape [than Ensworth's]."

As evidenced in the simi-

larity of the two freshmen's views, both the academic and athletic programs at Montgomery Bell Academy are challenging and tougher than the curriculum in the Junior School at MBA and at the Ensworth School. Both freshmen felt a definite change of degree of difficulty in the two curricula. This change is proof of MBA's continuing excellence in the areas of academics and athletics and commitment to pushing the student/athlete to achieving new heights of excellence in both facets of school life.



L: Big Dick Pulley shows his volleyball prowess.

R: "I'm telling you, coach, there ain't no way we're gonna leave the times in a restaurant again!" (Two hours later, Mr. Pruitt leaves the folder with all the recorded times under a tray of half-eaten fast food in a Wendy's in Lexington, Kentucky.)

Hugo Was a Bully

by John Lamb

staff writer

Visit a North American playground nowadays and you will be likely to see a bully taking advantage of smaller children. Even in my church the other night a child was left crying in pain by a bully who had learned how to shin-kick. It's bad enough watching this sort of injustice, and truly more tragic to be the victim.

Imagine a bully you've never known; now imagine his unstoppable drive to steal your sack lunch. It's bad enough when Barney/Spike ravages the patio, but for someone to randomly take your essence of survival at school, your all-important lunch, is horrible beyond the norm.

Imagining this bully stealing hundreds of thousands of lunches is to begin to contemplate the brute Hugo.

He ripped over 70,000 people from their Charleston homes, destroyed a city's power system (which remains in critical condition), and marred any remaining spirit by taking the landscape with him.

All we can do is help. For each one of us to give some of ourselves is small on our end, but magnificent on theirs. The whole playground can pitch in to help the one sufferer; what a great aid this is! For each of us, as a citizen of the United States, to send supplies to South Carolina, is helpful fifty times over! Our small sacrifice can become another's building block.

McDonald's®, local churches, and charities are some of the organizations you can contact first to help the newly needy in Charleston. Hugo left pain; we can be the comfort. Let's help them out.

OUT-OF-TOWN NEWS

LBD Passes in Hendersonville

by David Lott

Copy Editor

On Thursday, September 28, the citizens of Hendersonville went to the polls to vote for their aldermen. Also on the ballot, however, was a referendum to legalize the sale of liquor by the drink (LBD).

Though the issue has come up before, Hendersonville has managed to remain a "dry" city. In 1984, the LBD referendum was defeated 5,704 to 5,006, a narrow 698 vote margin. The story was different in 1986, though, when a similar referendum was defeated by a much larger 1,479 vote difference. This year's referendum was brought by Rick Bianucci, a Nashville stockbroker.

This increased opposition to LBD from 1984 to 1986 and the general trend to

vote against the legalization of LBD was foiled last Thursday, though. The vote was 4,509 to 3,777 in favor of LBD. The vote margin was a drastic 732.

The citizens of Hendersonville voted in favor of the LBD referendum despite the opposition of numerous citizens, especially those in the Concerned Citizens of Hendersonville Organization. The group headed a great campaign against the LBD referendum. The two opposition groups came to a head in a heated debate several weeks before the vote. The debate was an inspiration to the citizens, who wrote a barrage of editorials to the local paper following the debate.

Though those against LBD are disappointed with the results of the vote, they will not dwell in the past. Both sides feel that the citizens of Hendersonville must unite now to fight the drug related problems of society by strictly enforcing DUI laws and by cracking down on the drug problems in schools with the youth (*The Hendersonville Star News* vol. 38, no. 78).



ENTERTAINMENT



The Last Temptation of Christ Finally Arrives in Nashville A REVIEW:

by Jim Haynes
Entertainment Editor

Vanderbilt is the only place in Nashville with the balls to try to play football against Auburn, to listen to the Sex Pistols, Alien Sex Fiend, the Revolting Cocks, and F.U.C.T. without being condemned as perverts, and to show the *The Last Temptation of Christ* at the Sarratt student center. On September 23, a heavily medicated Larry Vranka joined me to sit through the Martin Scorsese film.

Larry and I expected to find the conservatives ranting about the movie's blasphemy, but they were watching Vanderbilt pummel Ohio University across the road. Scorsese's interpretation of the Nikos Kazantzakis' novel was not blasphemous. Jesus (Willem Dafoe) is portrayed as a confused man possessed by the word of God. All of Jesus' intentions are good, but Scorsese pushes that Jesus "was made man" and his weaknesses. Jesus' Last Temptation, a dream induced by Satan, is based upon the original temptation of Adam. Satan tempts him with a new life away from religion to a

fruitful life in which Jesus has sex with Mary Magdalene (Barbara Hershey). This new life is a good one: he has a family and becomes a prosperous carpenter. However, Christ rejects the dream and sacrifices himself upon the cross. In the end, the movie praises God for giving man complete freedom.

The movie was too long and pushed symbolism to the extreme. At the ten minute intermission, I had to wake Larry from a deep sleep. The poetic irony of Christ's building crosses for the Romans was extreme and unnecessary. The confusion of the Jews, however, was portrayed well, as no one knew what God really wanted or what Jesus was. The imagery

of blood is used throughout the film and obviously foreshadows Christ's crucifixion. Judas (Harvey Keitel) is a strong dedicated character who, as in modern portrayals, is not an evil man. The small part of Pontius Pilate, perfect for David Bowie, is a Detached, calm, rational Roman. When the movie gets dull, Scorsese calls upon Peter Gabriel's soundtrack to enliven and, at times, overpower the film.

The movie was not worth the publicity. It was not blasphemous and did not deserve such religious criticism. It did not deserve the Oscar nomination. It did provoke thought and some insight about Christ as a man. Most of all, it put Larry to sleep.

New Disc Review



Tracy Chapman - Crossroads

All you folks think I got my price
At which I'll sell all that is mine
You think money rules when all else fails
Go sell your soul and keep your shell
I'm trying to protect what I keep inside
All the reasons why I live my life

—"Crossroads"

Tracy Chapman's debut album was a tremendous success, but as her lyrics suggest, she has not sold her soul to be a pop star. Although *Crossroads* contains no songs as emotionally powerful as "Behind the Wall," it does carry as

much protest over the huge racial and economic echelons that are present in America today, as shown in "Subcity," a song decrying the government's lack of concern for the extremely poor. Chapman also turns over a political leaf with "Freedom Now," dedicated to South African prisoner of politics Nelson Mandela.

Overall, *Crossroads* has a much richer, more polished sound than Chapman's debut album, and it is well worth the money spent to hear it.

by Andrew Duthie
Editor

10,000 MANIACS

CONCERT REVIEW

by Shade Murray
reporter

On Friday, September 8, 10,000 Maniacs thrilled and entertained the packed audience at TPAC's Jackson Hall on their *Blind Man's Zoo* tour. Opening for the northern New York band was Camper Van Beethoven, who played various numbers from their most popular album, *Our Beloved Revolutionary Sweetheart*. I was not able to see them perform because while they played, I was backstage trying to meet the main attraction. While backstage, I was surprised to find lead vocalist Natalie Merchant, who writes songs about child abuse, the Iran-Contra affair, et cetera, playing with her hair and pondering if men appreciated flowers.

When the opening act was through, the Maniacs came onstage, playing with full force to a packed house. They opened with the upbeat "What's the Matter Here?" and also played such favorites like "Trouble Me", "Like the Weather", and "Cherry Tree". Also, the show was highly effective in setting the mood for the songs. The lighting crew was able to change a mellow mood with subtle light changes for songs like "Trouble Me" and "Campfire Song" to a harsh, forceful floodlights and flashing colors during "City of

Angels".

Natalie Merchant's voice was at top notch performance level, but her showmanship left much to be desired. She had a warm but spacey personality (concert-goer Mr. Lanier called it "a pre-meditated weirdness on what's name's part"), and during some of the songs, she seemed to wander about on stage interested more in objects she found on the floor than in the concert. At the end of one song, the vocalist held her hand out to show the audience an interesting bug she found on the stage.

Even though some of Merchant's unintelligible rambling between songs grew a bit tiresome, the highlight of the concert was when Merchant came on stage in a grotesque puppet costume complete with larger than life hands and a distorted plaster mask for the song "You Happy Puppet". For the second and final encore, Merchant played the piano and sang "Verdi Cries", their most beautiful ballad. Then all alone on the stage, she sang a farewell folk song; and by the end, the whole concert hall chimed in with her.

10,000 Maniacs' music may not be for everyone; but Merchant's lyrics are noble and should be heard by everyone as a commentary of the world we live in.



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SPORTS

Varsity Football Continues Winning Season

by Stuart Towery

reporter

On August 7th, the 1989 varsity football team began its pursuit for a state playoff berth. Under the close scrutiny of the coaching staff, the players underwent a harsh examination of their physical powers, better known as Test Day. That same afternoon, official practice began, and for two weeks, the team practiced twice a day (Oh, beloved Two-A-Days)!

As summer drew to a close, the Big Red Machine toned up with scrimmages against Lipscomb, Antioch, and Brentwood Academy. Despite some gutsy performances, MBA was 0-3 heading into the Town & Country Jamboree. In the annual classic at Vanderbilt, MBA faced off against Franklin High for one quarter. After twelve minutes of play, neither team had scored.

Finally, the regular season opened on September 1st at Beech, home of the Buccaneers. The Big Red scored a touchdown in each of the first two quarters and added two more touchdowns in the third

quarter. Quarterback De Thompson ran for one touchdown and connected with Tate McDaniel for a 35 yard touchdown pass. Tail backs Robert Echols and Glen Harris each ran for touchdowns as MBA rolled to an easy 28-0 victory.

The following week, the football squad traveled to Pearl Cohn. All week long, horror stories could be heard about how big Pearl Cohn's linemen were, but it did not affect the Big Red. Pat Harkleroad kicked a 37 yard field goal (a chip shot for Pat) to open the flood gate. MBA proceeded to pummel Pearl Cohn as De Thompson ran for two touchdowns and threw a 16 yard TD pass to Drew Healy. Keith McCarty punched into the end zone from one yard out to cap the scoring. At the end of regulation, the score was 31-0 as MBA had its second shutout in two games. Tailback Robert Echols finished the night with 18 rushes for 126 yards, thanks to the tremendous play on MBA's offensive line.

On the 15th of September,

the Big Red hosted the Hendersonville commandoes in one of only four home games this season. This game, according to many, would be the first true test of the season. Once again, the MBA offense struck first as Pat "Golden Toe" Harkleroad booted a 24 yard field goal. De Thompson scored in the second quarter on a one yard run and helped seal an MBA victory with a 19 yard TD pass to Drew Healy.

MBA defeated the Commandos 16-8 with some impressive numbers. The Big Red amassed 200 yards rushing while holding Hendersonville to only 52 yards on the ground and 133 yards of total offense. Chris Vlahos and Robert Echols combined for 171 yards on the ground.

As Friday, September 22 approached, the football team prepared for what might be their stiffest challenge of the season. The Big Red traveled to Bowling Green, Kentucky, on a rainy Friday night to play Warren Central County, a 4A team. Of course everyone thought that there would be no way that MBA could even

compete with such a powerhouse. It was apparent, however, that the football team had ignored the negative remarks as they battled the Warren County Dragons on a rain soaked field. After four fumbles and a stalled drive at the end of the game, MBA went down to defeat for the first time this season as Warren County scored 18 points to MBA's 14 points.

Putting the previous week's loss behind them, MBA traveled to Hunters Lane. With Quarterback De Thompson sidelined with a shoulder injury suffered in the Warren County game, Billy Crawford stepped in and delivered an outstanding performance as he threw for two touchdown passes, a 28 yard pass to tight end Tate McDaniel and a 9 yard pass to receiver Richard Arendale. Pat Harkleroad connected on two field goals as MBA recorded its fourth win of the season, 20-7.

On October 6, Father Ryan ventured to MBA to challenge the 4-1 Big Red. As

always, despite the records of both teams, this game proved to be the most intense match-up of the year. After some of their students vandalized MBA, Father Ryan had a long evening in store for them as Chris Vlahos pounded the ball into the end zone twice. Robert Echols added another touchdown run and kicker Pat Harkleroad booted a 24 yard field goal and three PAT's. The big story, however, was the Big Red's defense. With an interception by Scott Burrow and ferocious play by the defensive line, MBA smothered Father Ryan's offensive attack. When the final seconds ticked off the clock, MBA had won, 24-7, giving up only 94 yards rushing and 16 yards passing.

In the following weeks, the Big Red will finish the season with four district games, including the October 20th Homecoming game against Overton. It should be an exciting finale to an already great season. Come out and support the football team as they try to capture the district title!

Microbe Football

by Andrew Vahrenkamp

reporter

On the scorching day of August 23, the microbe football team geared up for a repeat of last year's 5-1 record in the HVAC. Led by such players as Tom Sullivan, Parkes Owen, and Hugh Gaston, the Little Red suffered a heart-breaking loss to BGA, 12-6 in double overtime to start the season. The microbes vowed to do better, and do better they did, shutting out Grassland at MBA 8-0. The following week, the Little Red played HVAC power Brentwood Academy and lost 32-0 to a strong Eagle team. When asked about the team's play thus far, Coach Thoni replied, "We've done well. We've been playing tougher teams so far, but we have a lot of improvements to make." Let us wish the best of luck to the microbes in their quest for the HVAC crown.

Freshman Football Team Struggles Forward

by John Teeter

reporter

Coach Freddy Forehand's fabulous Frosh, with assistants Herring and Mikell, has compiled a 1-2 record against stiff competition so far this year. Due to an unimpressive offensive barrage, the unfortunate Frosh were shut out by Stratford in the first game of the season and lost running back Andy Russ to a broken ankle. In their next showdown with arch-rival Father Ryan, the "Red Renegades" were once again stopped short of victory, 6-16; the only score coming on Mark Fuqua's 60 yard TD scamper. Despite losing star QB Jody Cummings in the Ryan game,

a revitalized red emerged victorious with a 14-12 floundering of Pearl Cohn. Notable highlights from the Pearl Cohn game were R. A. Dickey's 22 yard TD pass to Tom Hamling and Mark Fuqua's 7 yard touchdown run and extra point. The Frosh's improving defense has been lead by linemen Ford Simpkins, Andy Ward, and Mike Gavagin, and a secondary of Sean Murphy, Brad Maggart, and Bobby Zapff. The Frosh's offensive assault has been lead by Mark Fuqua and "Lap Dog" Dickey. Despite the losses of Russ and Cummings, the Frosh has proven resilient and looks forward to a strong season.

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SPORTS

Cross Country Takes First at Lexington

by George Reitz

reporter

During the fifth period on Friday, September 29, fourteen guys, Mr. Pruitt, Mr. Drake, and assorted gear piled into two vans and left campus largely unnoticed. After four hours of having "Boston, Led Zeppelin, and other great vibes" imposed upon them by Justin Crosslin's boom box, this group descended upon Lexington, Kentucky, home of the Kentucky Horse Park.

After a short jog around the park's cross country course, the team headed to Pizza Hut for their traditional coat and tie dinner. While Rob Lance, Art Holscher, and George Reitz checked out the Supershop next door, Keith "Maurice" Ikard was forced to fend off several Ohio females. The group also observed some unusual automotive specimens in the parking lot, notably a green Nova with awe-inspiring back tires.

Later the Big Red returned to the Park Inn for a restful evening of MTV and "touch" football. In the darkness, freshmen Glenn Gaston rocketed into the end zone and caught a long pass from Casey Jones, foreshadowing another Weenie Bowl victory.

The next morning, runners were awakened by Mr. Pruitt's demented banging on

the door, but they were promptly refreshed by bananas, donuts, and the brain-jarring noises of MTV. An hour later they arrived at the Kentucky Horse Park, ready to compete.

The J.V. race was highlighted by the performance of Glenn Gaston, who ran a personal best to finish third. Lance and Holscher also ran well, with Holscher improving dramatically. Brandon Barrett, Frazer Buntin, and Scott Hande were crucial in claiming a fifth-place trophy for MBA. Barrett said, "There's just something about this course. It's amazing!"

One hour later, the Varsity race began. Keith Ikard and Casey Jones led the pack

to the mile pole in less than five minutes, where an injured Rietz was making horrendous amounts of supportive noise. They were pursued by Matt Zibas, Justin and John Crosslin, Dan James, and Andrew Duthie. One mile later, Ikard had widened his lead, while Jones pursued the second place runner. Meanwhile, the other MBA runners began advancing through the pack. With 400 yards to go, Ikard was clearly the winner and was giving high-fives to awed spectators. Jones caught his man, but was outkicked and finished third. Zibas, James, and (Justin) Crosslin hit the finishing stretch together, placing 16th, 18th, and 19th. They were closely followed by John

Crosslin (24th) and later by Andrew Duthie.

After showering at the motel, a joyful squad returned to the Horse Park, where Gaston and the JV team received their well-earned awards and the Varsity team claimed the 1st place trophy for the small school division.

One week later, the team met in MBA's parking lot at the ungodly hour of 6 a.m. As the van headed into the sunrise, runners slept with the soothing sounds of WAMB radio. One by one they awoke to find that someone had eaten their donuts, and the van arrived in Oak Ridge shortly thereafter.

After arriving at the course, some runners went to check out the "green monster," a steep, half-mile long hill that was part of the course. They also took stock of their competition, which included Oak Ridge, Brentwood Academy, and the defending state champions, Baylor.

As the J.V. race began, a large pack from Farragut took the lead and stayed there. MBA runners Scott Hande and Frazer Buntin led the team to a third-place finish, with a strong backup from Rob Lance, Andrew Duthie, and the ever-improving Art Holscher.

An hour later, the varsity

began their ascent of the "green monster." Keith Ikard and Casey Jones stayed back in the pack as they climbed the hill, then Ikard took the lead with an incredible stride. Close behind, Jones fought Hillsboro's Patrick McKennon and claimed a well-earned second place. Both Ikard and Jones broke the 16 minute mark. Further back in the pack, Dan James and Justin Crosslin fought a brave but unsuccessful battle to beat Brentwood Academy's Marshall "the Smurf" Smith, with freshman John Crosslin a mere second behind them. Glenn Gaston broke the 18 minute mark for the first time, and Alex Rogers displayed an outstanding kick to finish in 18:27. The varsity team earned a third place finish for their outstanding efforts.

This year's cross-country team has much talent, but more important is its dedication to the sport (most of the Varsity squad trains year-round). This dedication shows up in the Big Red victories in the Tennessee Classic and Lexington Catholic Invitational, as well as in their 3rd place finishes in the A.F. Bridges and Oak Ridge Invitational meets. The team hopes to translate this dedication into a high finish at the state meet on November 4.



The team relaxes under Supreme Sultan after winning at Lexington.

photo: Charles Jones



Casey Jones (third from left) and Keith Ikard (second from left) lead the varsity division at Oak Ridge.



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Pruitt Dictionary, First Edition

The only authorized compilation of idioms and other expressions commonly used by "Coarch" Robert Pruitt.

1. Get naked and run wild! - answer to question of "What are we going to do?"
2. Horse flop! - wrong answer.
3. Did you get your money back? - Cut down after witnessing a new haircut for the first time.
4. Stupid fund. - Student fund.
5. On a scale of 1 to 10..., that's stupid. - rating of a student's response or action.

compiled by Justin Crosslin and Tommy Lawrence

SPORTS

Varsity Golf Takes First in District, Second in Region

by C. B. Harwell

reporter

Having lost several seasoned golfers to graduation, the 1989 MBA golf team was destined to be a youthful and relatively inexperienced team. Despite the obvious lack of veterans, this fine young team proved to be a force on the course. Senior Sharpe Belote; juniors Charles Israel, Matt Poe, Jason Richason, and James Nash; sophomore Drew Patterson; and freshman D. J. Salinas compose this talented group of athletes, led by coach Michael Caldwell.

The team began its sea-

son by defeating USN and Hillwood. The team was upset by region powerhouse, Franklin, but showed its resilience in an outstanding performance against Hume Fogg. MBA beat Ezell Harding and split matches Ryan. Other wins included those over Overton, Lipscomb, and Clarksville East. The highlight of the season was capturing the district title by beating Ryan by three strokes. Matt Poe came in fourth individually.

On October 10, however, the Big Red could not defeat Ryan again. Ryan took first with the help of sophomore

Eric Kruse's score of only 79 strokes (a 15-stroke improvement over his district score). The Big Red was forced to settle for second: disappointing because only the first place regional team goes to the state match.

This team represents another facet of MBA's strong sports program and should be commended for its relentless pursuit of excellence. Even though the golf team did not win the region this year, its youth and large number of junior golfers are sure to make next year another great year for the varsity golf team.



Photo Foster

Tate McDaniel, Chris Vlahos, et al. prepare for the next play at Hunters Lane on Friday, September 29. MBA beat Hunters Lane 20-7

Story, page six.



Photo Foster

The cheerleaders strike a serious pose at Hunters Lane.

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Congratulations to the Varsity Football team for a great season so far!

Keep it up!

-from a friend

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